

What is claimed is:

1. A water-redispersible polymer powder composition with accelerated-setting action based on homo- or copolymers of one or more monomers from the group consisting of vinyl esters of unbranched or branched alkylcarboxylic acids having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, methacrylic esters and acrylic esters of alcohols having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, vinylaromatics, olefins, dienes, and vinyl halides, on one or more protective colloids, and, where appropriate, antiblocking agent, characterized in that one or more compounds from the group consisting of alkali metal salts and alkaline earth metal salts of inorganic or organic acids are present.

2. The water-redispersible polymer powder composition as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that one or more salts of the following metals: lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, and calcium is present with an inorganic counter ion forming a group consisting of carbonate ion, chlorideion, sulfate ion, nitrate ion, and phosphate ion, or with an organic counterion from the group consisting of carboxylate groups which derive from carboxylic acid having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

3. The water-redispersible polymer powder composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that one or more calcium salts of carboxylic acids having 1 to 4 carbon atoms are present.

4. The water-redispersible polymer powder composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the homo- or copolymers used comprise vinyl acetate homopolymers, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and with one or

more other vinyl esters, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and acrylic ester, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and vinyl chloride, styrene-acrylic ester copolymers, styrene-1,3-butadiene copolymers.

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5. The water-redispersible polymer powder composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the protective colloid used comprises partially hydrolyzed or fully hydrolyzed, where appropriate hydrophobicized, polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 80 to 100 mol% and having a Höppler viscosity of from 1 to 30 mPas in 4% strength aqueous solution (Höppler method at 20°C, DIN 53015).

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6. The water-redispersible polymer powder composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the amount present of the setting-accelerator component, based on the total weight of the powder composition, is from 1 to 20% by weight.

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7. A process for preparing the water-redispersible polymer powder compositions as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the setting-accelerator component is added to the appropriate polymer dispersion immediately prior to the spray drying process, or is added after the drying process in powder form.

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8. The use of the water-redispersible polymer powder compositions as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 in construction chemistry products, in association with hydraulically setting binders, such as cements, calcium sulfate, and water glass.

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9. The use of the water-redispersible polymer powder compositions as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 for the

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production of construction adhesives, tile adhesive,  
exterior insulation system adhesive, plasters and renders,  
trowelling compositions, floor-filling compositions, self-  
leveling compositions, sealing slurries, jointing mortars,  
5 or paints.

10. The use of the water-redispersible polymer powder  
compositions as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 for spray  
mortar or spray concrete for construction work in civil or  
10 structural engineering, or else in the lining of tunnel  
walls.